



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

General Notes.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL.

The Peary Exploring Expeditions for Greenland and the Survey of Unexplored Regions of the Arctic Circle.—An expedition that promises to the promoters and to science generally discoveries and result of interesting import now takes the name of the North Greenland Exploring Expedition. It has been fitted out by an experienced investigator, Lieutenant Robert E. Peary, who is a civil engineer, serving in the navy with the rank of lieutenant, and for the past two years stationed at the League Island Navy Yard, Philadelphia. He has obtained a long leave of absence in order to command this enterprise, which he has personally projected and arranged, contributing largely to the necessary expenses. His former experience in the far north fit him thoroughly for his work. Five years ago he penetrated far into Greenland with a companion, and obtained a knowledge that is the basis of his present project of reaching and exploring the most northeasterly promontory of Greenland, and, if the conjectures of the existence of a polar open sea be well founded, to secure all the information obtainable about that ocean.

Among the first to see the promise of Lieutenant Peary's project were the members of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. This institution not only extended sympathy and support, but organized a special auxiliary corps, with this personnel: Professor Angelo Heilprin, Curator-in-Charge of the Academy, will be the geologist and leader of the party; Professor Benjamin Sharp, M.D., Ph.D., also of the Academy, will be the zoologist; Professor J. F. Holt, Professor of Natural History at the Philadelphia High School, also zoologist; Dr. William T. Hughes, ornithologist; Mr. Frazer Ashhurst; Dr. Robert M. Keely, assistant ophthalmologist at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, surgeon; Dr. William H. Burk, botanist; Levi W. Mengel, Ph.G., of Reading, Pa., entomologist; and Alexander C. Kenealy, journalist.

For the voyage a diminutive but staunch steam yacht, called the "Kite," has been secured. She was built expressly for sealing trips, and has buffeted the ice-floes of Norway for nearly eighteen years, and although perfectly sound, has been strengthened and put in order

for the proposed heavy work, and supplied with every means that experience can suggest to fit her for the work.

The dimensions of the "Kite" are 117.6 feet long over all, 26.4 feet beam, and 14 feet hold. Her tonnage is 280 gross and 190 net. The engine is a vertical one of fifty-horse power, placed well aft, so as to give the propeller a short crank shaft, and thus lessen any liability to breakage. The propeller can be triced up and the rudder unshipped in thick ice. Her speed is from seven and one-half to nine knots. Her bow and sides are well protected with heavy pieces of iron and dovetailed blocks of wood.

The vessel will be commanded by Captain Richard Pike, who went with Lieutenant Greely in 1881, and was also one of the Greely rescue party in 1883. His crew will consist of chief mate, Edward Tracy; boatswain, Patrick Dunphy; chief engineer, William Jardine; second engineer, Alexander McKinley; steward, Lawrence Hackett; assistant steward, Patrick Welsh; cook, Thomas Pepper; firemen, Andrew Roost, Edward Crook, and John Cunningham, and able seamen, Thomas Collins, John Cummings, Timothy Looney, and John Verge. McKinley is from Glasgow, and Pepper from London. The others are Newfoundland seal fishermen.

Lieutenant Peary will be accompanied by his wife and five hardy seamen who have experienced the rigor of polar winter weather, and they are to stick to him in all his operations and movements. So the entire ship's company will consist of thirty persons. There will also be four large Newfoundland dogs on board.

The "Kite" sailed from New York, in June last, direct to Ivigtut, a coaling station at the southernmost point of Greenland, just back of Cape Farewell. From thence the "Kite" will proceed to Upernavik, on the northwestern coast, in latitude 73°. This is the northernmost Danish settlement of Greenland. From Upernavik the "Kite" will break her way through the ice across Melville Bay, around Cape York to Whale Sound, where Lieutenant Peary, his party, and all their supplies will be landed.

It is expected that it will take a month to reach Whale Sound, where a house will be built for Lieutenant Peary and his wife, who will accompany him on his long journey. At this point the North Greenland and the West Greenland parties will separate. The North Greenland expedition will start out and establish provision stations to the northward and eastward. About a year will be consumed in making these preparations, and it is not expected that the actual business of that part of the expedition will be begun until the

summer of 1892. Lieutenant Peary will then take a northeast route, skirting the coast, but keeping on the unbroken inland ice. As the party proceeds, their route will bend to the northward and reach the furthest point north of the Greely expedition. From that point an effort will be made to reach the northern terminus of the land and determine its character, and also the existence of an open polar sea. At the same time the Academy of Sciences corps will proceed southward. Lieutenant Peary states that he will make journeys from station to station on snow-shoes and ice-skates or skias, while provisions will be transported by Eskimo dogs and by members of the party. It is believed by Professor Heilprin and others that the party will reach within 350 miles of the North Pole by traveling, it is estimated, about 1,200 miles to and from the main station. This journey will consume about three months, including rests, and the daily journey will cover from eighteen to twenty miles. He proposes to see if the region of the North Pole is of land or water, and hopes to discover the polar open sea.

GEOLOGY AND PALEONTOLOGY.

The Name Huronian.—Professor Alexander Winchell, in the Bulletin of the Geological Society of America, Vol. II., pp. 85-124, remarks as follows :

“Clearly, the interests of geology and of truth demand an adjustment of these conflicting conditions in terminology. If Sir William Logan unwittingly extended the term Huronian over two systems now known to be distinct, that usage cannot be continued. Either the name must be restricted to the upper system, or it must be relegated to synonymy. We think it may be appropriately attached to the upper system. The early Canadian geologists sought a term which would cover, first and chiefly, the great quartzites which were found to follow the Silurian strata in downward succession. Underneath were seen so-called chloritic schists and a slate conglomerate. In the region first studied these were seen to rest on crystalline rocks, and appeared to fill completely the gap between the Silurian and the gneisses. These strata were all conformable, and evidently constituted a system. If it had not been previously named, the Canadian geologists conferred a service on science in giving it a designation.

“Soon, however, older schists than these were described ; but since their structural discordance with these was not striking in the original